GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A B S T R A C T

Public Services –Agriculture & Cooperation Department – Complaints – Irregularities occurred in BC Lab., Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District, i.e., Shortage of Tricoderma viridi stock by 500Kgs – Prima facie established - Disciplinary action against Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District, under A.P. Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 - Articles of Charge - Issued.

AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.124 **Dated:08/02/2024**

Read the following:

1. From the Spl. Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur, Lr.No.Vig.I(I) AGC02-32026(32)/4/2023, dt.01.08.2023.
2. Memo.No.AGC01-AGRI/304/2023-VIG.I, A & C (Vig.I) Dept. dt.16.08.2023.
3. From the Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur, Lr.No.Vig.I(I) AGC02-32026(32)/4/2023, dt.24.01.2024.
4. G.O.Rt.No.122, A &C (Vig.I) Dept. dt.08.02.2024.

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It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehavior in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of Articles of Charge (Annexure-I), Statement of imputation of misconduct or misbehavior on which action is proposed to be taken against him as Annexure-II, a list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the Article of Charge is proposed to be sustained are also enclosed as Annexure-III and IV.

3. Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District, is directed to submit a Written Statement of Defense (WSD) within (10) days of the receipt of this order.

4. Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District, is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those Articles of Charge as are not admitted. She should therefore, specifically admit or deny each Articles of Charge.

5. Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District, is further informed that if she does not submit her Written Statement of Defense (WSD) on or before the date specified in para-3 above, or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 or the orders/directions issued in pursuance of the said rules, the Inquiry Authority may hold the inquiry against her exparte.

6. Attention of Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District, is invited to rule 24 of the A.P.Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further her interest in respect of matters pertaining to her service under the Government. If any representation is received on her behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings it will be presumed that Smt.R.LalithaKumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District, is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at her instance and action will be taken against her for violation of rule 24 of the A. P. Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O.)

7. The receipt of this G.O. shall be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:
Smt.R.LalithaKumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District.
(through the Spl. Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur)

Copy to:
The Spl. Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur,
(With a request to serve the original G.O. on the Charged Officer and obtain her dated acknowledgement on the Xerox copy and furnish the same along with her Written Statement of Defense (WSD) to the Government)
Sf./Sc.

// FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd. Annexures...)

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGE ISSUED AGAINST SMT. R. LALITHA KUMARI, AGRICULTURE OFFICER, BIOLOGICAL CONTROL LABORATORY, IBRAHIMPATNAM, NTR DISTRICT.

Articles of Charge:

"That the said Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab, Ibrahimpatnam has issued 500 Kgs. of Trichoderma viridi on 30.07.2022 without raising Bill and without crediting the amount of Rs.50,000/- into the Account of BC Lab. Further, she has not entered the sold out material in the Stock Register, resulting in shortage of stock and not recovered the balance amount for the sold out stock from the Daily Wage Labour. Instead of sorting out the problem, she has persuaded the other staff members of the BC Lab and lodged a complaint letter to the Hon'ble MLA concerned and the Press against the Asst. Director of Agriculture.

The above acts show her dereliction in discharging her legitimate duties and confirm her 'misconduct' and 'unbecoming' of a Government Servant' which attract violation of Rule-3 of A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964."

Sd/- Gopal Krishna Dwivedi
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

(P.T.O.)

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SMT. R. LALITHA KUMARI, AGRICULTURE OFFICER, BIOLOGICAL CONTROL LABORATORY, IBRAHIMPATNAM, NTR DISTRICT.

Basis of the Charge:

As per the report, Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer, BC Lab., Ibrahimpatnam, NTR District has informed that, after getting satisfied with the Indent Letter and having received partial amount, Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer has handed over the Key to Daily Wage Labour, so as to issue 500 Kgs. of Trichoderma viridi to the chill farmers. However, she has not entered the sold out material in the Stock Register, resulting in shortage of the stock and not recovered the balance amount for the sold out stock from the Daily Wage Labour. Being a custodian of the stock and sales, she herself has verified the stock on 01.08.2022 and noticed the shortage. Subsequently, she has entered the above stock in distribution column in page No.230 & 231 of Volume VIII, without bill number and placed her signature as token of authorization.

The Preliminary Inquiry Report has revealed that, Smt.R.Lalitha Kumari, Agriculture Officer has failed to maintain updated Stock Register and Bill Books, which is in deviation of the duties and responsibilities of Agriculture Officer in BC Lab., as a result variation in the stock of 500 Kgs. of Trichoderma viridi has been noticed, on verification by herself.

Further, instead of sorting out the problem with the Asst. Director of Agriculture, she has persuaded the other staff members of the BC Lab and lodged a complaint letter to the Hon'ble MLA concerned and the Press against the Asst. Director of Agriculture and thus polluted the atmosphere of the Lab.

The above acts show her dereliction in discharging her legitimate duties and confirm her 'misconduct' which attracts violation of Rule-3 of A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964. Hence, the Charge.

Sd/- Gopal Krishna Dwivedi
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd.p.3)

ANNEXURE –III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BY WHICH ARTICLE OF CHARGE FARMED AGAINST SMT. R. LALITHA KUMARI, AGRICULTURE OFFICER, O/o ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, BIOLOGICAL CONTROL LABORATORY, IBRAHIMPATNAM, NTR DISTRICT PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

Preliminary enquiry report submitted by Smt.P.Padmaja, Joint Director of Agriculture, O/o C&DA, A.P., Guntur, dt.14.11.2022.

Sd/- Gopal Krishna Dwivedi
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE - IV

LIST OF WITNESSES BY WHOM THE ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SMT. R. LALITHA KUMARI, AGRICULTURE OFFICER, O/o ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, BIOLOGICAL CONTROL LABORATORY, IBRAHIMPATNAM, NTR DISTRICT PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

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Sd/- Gopal Krishna Dwivedi
CHIEF COMMISSIONER, RBKs &
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

// FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER